



December 19, 2016

State Economic Snapshots

This monthly report provides a snapshot of the status of the economic recovery in each of the 50 states and the District of Columbia. This month's snapshots include state-level data on jobs, unemployment and earnings through November 2016.¹

Highlights

- Private-sector employment increased in 34 states in November.
- The unemployment rate fell in 32 states and the District of Columbia.
- Real gross domestic product (GDP) increased in 37 states and the District of Columbia over the year between the second quarter of 2015 and the second quarter of 2016.
- Home values appreciated in 49 states over the year between the third quarter of 2015 and the third quarter of 2016.
- Average hourly earnings, adjusted for inflation, increased in 28 states and the District of Columbia over the past year.

Private-Sector Job Gains

Private-sector employment increased in 34 states in November. The largest private-sector gains were in Florida (31,600), Texas (15,800), Indiana (13,300), California and South Carolina (11,200 each). On a percentage basis, the largest gains were in Nebraska, Maine, South Carolina, Idaho and New Mexico.

Over the past 12 months, 41 states and the District of Columbia gained private-sector jobs, with California (303,600), Florida (251,400), Texas (171,800), New York (101,100) and Georgia (88,500) recording the largest increases. The largest percentage gains in private-sector employment during this period were in Utah, Florida (3.5 percent each), Washington (3.2 percent), Oregon (3.0 percent) and Nevada (2.9 percent). Nationally, 2.0 million private-sector jobs were added in the past year, a 1.7 percent increase.

Unemployment

The unemployment rate declined in 32 states and the District of Columbia in November. The declines were statistically significant in 18 states. Connecticut, Massachusetts and Missouri had the largest declines (-0.4 percentage point each) that were significant.

Over the past 12 months, 33 states and the District of Columbia reported declines in the unemployment rate. Nine states had declines that were statistically significant, with the largest of these declines in Massachusetts (-2.0 percentage points), Nevada (-1.2 percentage points), South Carolina (-1.1 percentage points), Arizona and Mississippi (-0.9 percentage point). Two states had statistically significant increases.

New Hampshire and South Dakota (2.7 percent each) had the lowest unemployment rates in November, followed by North Dakota, Massachusetts (2.9 percent each) and Hawaii (3.0 percent). Alaska (6.8 percent)

¹ Individual monthly readings should be interpreted with caution and in the context of longer-term trends and other data that become available. Changes in state-level data from month to month may not be statistically significant due to sampling variation, which occurs because a sample rather than the entire population is surveyed.

had the highest unemployment rate, followed by New Mexico (6.7 percent), Louisiana (6.2 percent), the District of Columbia and West Virginia (6.0 percent each). The national unemployment rate was 4.6 percent in November, down from 5.0 percent one year ago.

State Gross Domestic Product

Real gross domestic product (GDP) increased in 37 states and the District of Columbia over the year between the second quarter of 2015 and the second quarter of 2016, according to data from the Bureau of Economic Analysis. GDP increased fastest in Oregon (4.6 percent), followed by Washington (4.3 percent), Georgia (3.9 percent), Utah (3.4 percent) and New Hampshire (3.1 percent). Thirteen states reported declines in GDP over the year. Nationally, real GDP by state increased by 1.2 percent during this period.²

As seen in the **table on page 5**, over the past three years (between the second quarter of 2013 and the second quarter of 2016), real GDP increased in the District of Columbia and every state but Alaska, North Dakota, Wyoming and West Virginia. Alaska and Wyoming were also two of the four states (along with Connecticut and Louisiana) to record negative GDP growth since the second quarter of 2009, when the Great Recession officially ended at the national level.

Energy producing states which benefited directly from the natural gas boom have recorded the strongest GDP growth since the second quarter of 2009, as well as over the entire recession and recovery period (from the fourth quarter of 2007 to the second quarter of 2016). This is despite negative growth in the past year. North Dakota, Texas and Oklahoma rank 1st, 2nd and tied for 3rd, respectively, for fastest growth during the past seven years. The same states rank 1st, 2nd and 5th for average annual growth since the fourth quarter of 2007, the prerecession peak for GDP at the national level.

As the natural gas boom waned, the North Dakota and Oklahoma economies contracted over the past year, experiencing GDP declines of 8.4 percent and 2.7 percent, respectively, between the second quarter of 2015 and the second quarter of 2016. North Dakota's economy shrank at a faster rate than any other state over that period. Texas, which recorded average annual GDP growth of 3.8 percent over the past 7 years, saw its economy shrink by 0.2 percent over the last year, for a ranking of 40th in the country. Nebraska and Colorado, both energy-producing states that ranked amongst the top 10 fastest growing states over the past seven years, saw their growth rankings fall to 25th and 28th, respectively, over the past year.

Some states hit hard by the housing crash still have not returned to their prerecession GDP levels. While the state economies in Arizona and Nevada have strengthened recently (with real GDP growth ranking 17th and 22nd respectively, over the past year), average annual GDP growth since the fourth quarter of 2007 remains negative in both of these states. Connecticut and Wyoming are the only other states with negative GDP growth since the national prerecession peak. By contrast, California, which also was hit hard by the housing bust, has surpassed its prerecession GDP peak, ranking 14th for GDP growth in the past year, 1st in the past three years, 5th in the past 7 years and 12th since the national prerecession peak in the fourth quarter of 2007. Florida, another state that rode the housing bust down, has had the 4th fastest growth over the past three years and achieved average annual GDP growth of 0.2 percent since the national prerecession peak.

Home Prices

Home values appreciated in 49 states over the year between the third quarter of 2015 and the third quarter of 2016, according to the Federal Housing Finance Agency's purchase-only, seasonally adjusted index. Home prices increased the most in Florida (10.7 percent), Oregon, Washington (10.4 percent each),

² Due to methodological differences, total U.S. real GDP by state may differ slightly from headline national GDP figures.

Colorado (10.0 percent), and Utah (9.5 percent). Home prices fell in Delaware and the District of Columbia. Nationally, home prices rose by 6.1 percent during this period.

Earnings

Average hourly earnings, adjusted for inflation, increased in 28 states and the District of Columbia over the past year. The largest earnings gains were posted in the District of Columbia (4.5 percent), Delaware (4.3 percent), Minnesota (4.2 percent), Oregon (3.4 percent), Rhode Island and Missouri (3.1 percent each). Earnings declined in 20 states and were unchanged in two. Nationally, real average hourly earnings increased by 0.1 percent (not seasonally adjusted) in the past year. The District of Columbia (\$39.72) had the highest average hourly earnings in November, followed by Massachusetts (\$31.97), Connecticut (\$30.56), Washington (\$30.52) and New York (\$29.29).

Key Employment Sectors

Manufacturing

Manufacturing employment expanded in 20 states during November. The largest increases were in California (6,300), Georgia (3,000), South Carolina (2,100), North Carolina (2,000) and Indiana (1,400). On a percentage basis, the largest gains were in New Mexico, Maryland, Idaho, South Carolina and Georgia.

Over the past 12 months, 21 states added manufacturing positions. On a percentage basis, the biggest gains were in Utah (3.7 percent), Montana (3.2 percent), Florida (3.1 percent), South Carolina (2.3 percent) and Idaho (1.9 percent). Across the country, 54,000 manufacturing positions have been lost in the last 12 months, a 0.4 percent decrease.

Construction

Construction employment increased in 29 states and the District of Columbia during November. The largest gains were reported in California (3,900), Ohio (3,600), Minnesota (3,400), Missouri (3,000) and Michigan (2,500). The largest percentage gains during the month were in Montana, West Virginia, Maine, Alaska and Minnesota.

In the past 12 months, 34 states added construction jobs. The greatest percentage gains over the past year were in Nevada (11.7 percent), Iowa (10.2 percent), Washington (9.4 percent), Oregon (8.4 percent) and Colorado (8.3 percent). Nationally, over this period, construction employment increased by 155,000 positions, a 2.4 percent increase.

Professional and Business Services

Professional and business services employment increased in 33 states during November. The largest increases were posted in Indiana (8,300), Georgia (8,200), New Jersey (7,100), Kentucky (5,700) and Pennsylvania (5,000). The largest percentage gains were in Kentucky, South Dakota, Indiana, Idaho and Arkansas.

In the past year, 41 states and the District of Columbia added jobs in professional and business services. The largest percentage gains were in Oregon (6.6 percent), Delaware (5.2 percent), South Carolina (4.9 percent), Georgia (4.8 percent) and North Carolina (4.3 percent). The U.S. economy overall has added 571,000 professional and business services jobs during this time, a 2.9 percent increase.

Unemployment Rate (November 2016)	
New Hampshire	2.7%
South Dakota	2.7%
Massachusetts	2.9%
North Dakota	2.9%
Hawaii	3.0%
Utah	3.1%
Colorado	3.2%
Vermont	3.2%
Nebraska	3.4%
Idaho	3.8%
Iowa	3.8%
Minnesota	3.8%
Arkansas	4.0%
Maine	4.0%
Montana	4.0%
Wisconsin	4.1%
Indiana	4.2%
Maryland	4.2%
Virginia	4.2%
Delaware	4.3%
Kansas	4.3%
South Carolina	4.4%
Texas	4.6%
UNITED STATES	4.6%
Connecticut	4.7%
Missouri	4.7%
Kentucky	4.8%
Tennessee	4.8%
Florida	4.9%
Michigan	4.9%
Ohio	4.9%
Wyoming	4.9%
Arizona	5.0%
New Jersey	5.0%
North Carolina	5.0%
Oregon	5.0%
New York	5.1%
Oklahoma	5.1%
Nevada	5.2%
California	5.3%
Georgia	5.3%
Rhode Island	5.3%
Washington	5.3%
Illinois	5.6%
Mississippi	5.7%
Pennsylvania	5.7%
Alabama	5.9%
District of Columbia	6.0%
West Virginia	6.0%
Louisiana	6.2%
New Mexico	6.7%
Alaska	6.8%
Puerto Rico	11.9%

Job Growth in America: Change in Private-Sector Jobs				
<i>**Data through November 2016**</i>	Since Before Recession (December 2007)		Under President Obama (January 2009)	
	Percentage	Net Jobs	Percentage	Net Jobs
UNITED STATES	5.9%	6,846,000	10.2%	11,409,000
Alabama	-2.5%	-40,400	3.2%	49,800
Alaska	7.1%	16,900	6.6%	15,600
Arizona	2.2%	49,200	10.2%	212,600
Arkansas	2.0%	20,200	4.8%	46,800
California	8.4%	1,093,700	13.9%	1,713,500
Colorado	11.2%	221,400	14.4%	276,400
Connecticut	-0.6%	-8,100	2.3%	33,000
Delaware	4.5%	17,100	9.1%	32,900
District of Columbia	15.4%	71,900	14.8%	69,500
Florida	8.3%	564,000	17.0%	1,070,600
Georgia	7.5%	261,000	13.5%	444,000
Hawaii	4.3%	21,700	10.4%	49,600
Idaho	7.3%	39,100	14.4%	72,700
Illinois	1.1%	55,900	5.0%	245,600
Indiana	3.9%	101,000	10.0%	241,500
Iowa	4.1%	51,800	6.2%	77,200
Kansas	0.9%	9,900	1.9%	20,900
Kentucky	3.7%	57,200	8.5%	125,100
Louisiana	4.9%	77,800	5.6%	88,200
Maine	-0.5%	-2,600	2.6%	12,800
Maryland	3.3%	70,700	6.6%	136,400
Massachusetts	8.3%	238,600	10.9%	307,100
Michigan	4.4%	157,800	13.8%	455,200
Minnesota	5.1%	120,300	8.0%	183,100
Mississippi	-2.3%	-21,200	2.5%	21,800
Missouri	2.0%	46,700	4.9%	113,000
Montana	4.7%	16,900	8.7%	30,000
Nebraska	5.8%	46,600	7.0%	55,800
Nevada	0.8%	9,500	10.1%	105,000
New Hampshire	5.3%	29,600	7.9%	43,100
New Jersey	1.1%	37,300	5.0%	165,100
New Mexico	-2.4%	-15,600	1.1%	6,700
New York	9.5%	689,700	11.3%	809,700
North Carolina	4.9%	169,300	10.9%	356,800
North Dakota	25.0%	71,700	23.6%	68,400
Ohio	2.2%	101,100	7.2%	316,400
Oklahoma	2.1%	27,000	3.1%	39,200
Oregon	7.0%	101,200	13.9%	188,700
Pennsylvania	2.7%	136,100	5.1%	250,600
Puerto Rico	-8.7%	-62,700	-4.6%	-31,800
Rhode Island	1.9%	8,100	6.6%	26,600
South Carolina	6.8%	108,600	13.4%	201,900
South Dakota	8.3%	27,700	8.5%	28,200
Tennessee	7.1%	168,800	12.9%	291,500
Texas	16.5%	1,448,800	17.2%	1,502,800
Utah	13.5%	142,700	19.3%	194,100
Vermont	1.3%	3,200	4.3%	10,700
Virginia	4.2%	129,500	7.1%	214,000
Washington	10.0%	247,000	13.5%	321,100
West Virginia	-1.7%	-10,300	-0.8%	-4,800
Wisconsin	2.3%	57,700	5.5%	131,600
Wyoming	-8.0%	-18,100	-7.6%	-17,200

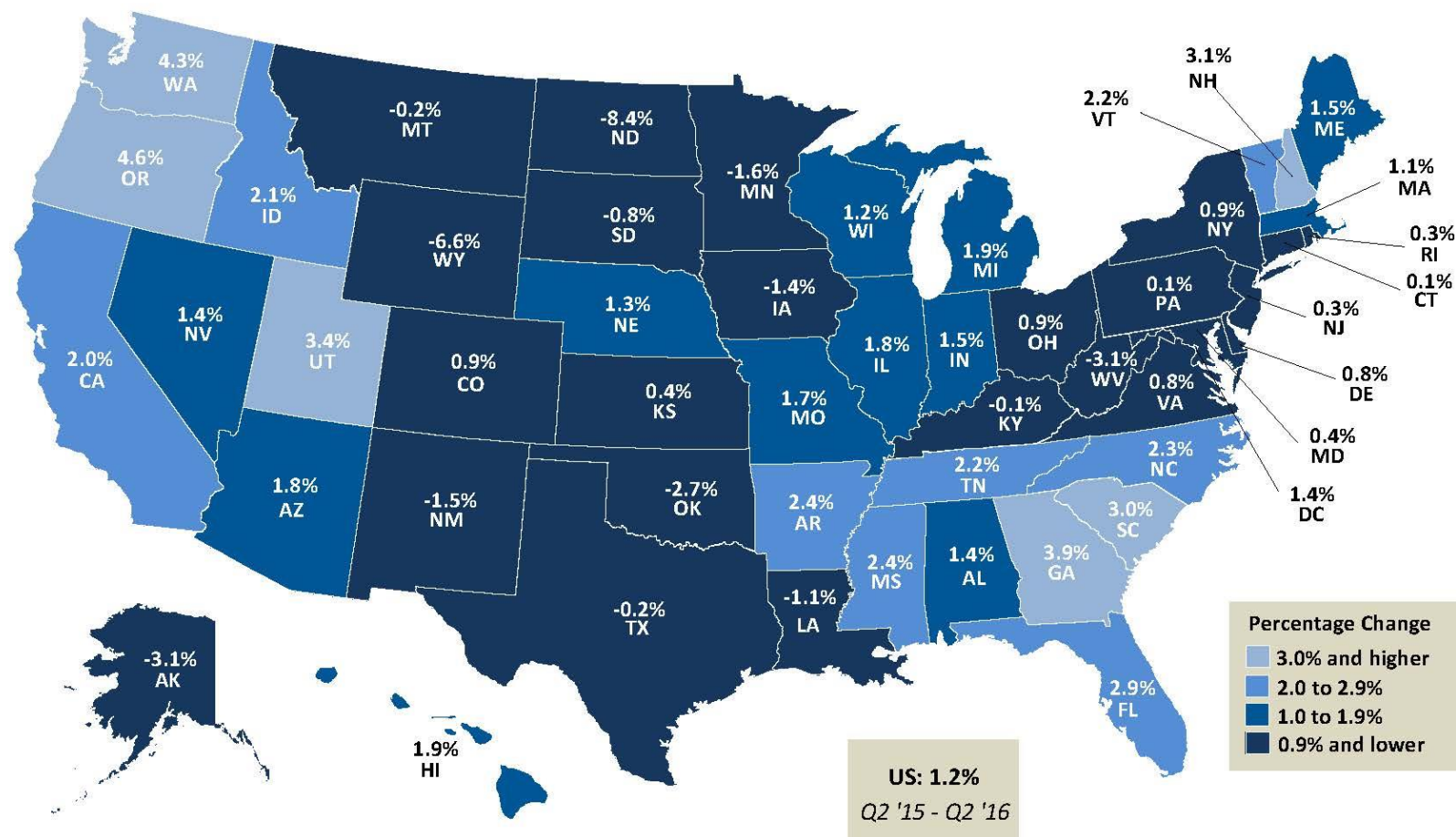
Real Gross Domestic Product (GDP) Growth by State								
	Past Year (Q2 2015 to Q2 2016)		Past 3 Years (Q2 2013 to Q2 2016)		Since National Low Point (Q2 2009 to Q2 2016)		Since National Prerecession Peak (Q4 2007 to Q2 2016)	
	% Change	Rank	Average Annual % Change	Rank	Average Annual % Change	Rank	Average Annual % Change	Rank
UNITED STATES	1.2%		2.1%		1.9%		1.0%	
Alabama	1.4%	22	0.8%	41	1.0%	37	0.3%	41
Alaska	-3.1%	48	-1.9%	51	-0.8%	50	0.7%	25
Arizona	1.8%	17	1.6%	22	1.4%	29	-0.3%	48
Arkansas	2.4%	8	1.4%	28	1.9%	15	0.6%	33
California	2.0%	14	3.6%	1	2.5%	5	1.3%	12
Colorado	0.9%	28	3.2%	7	2.4%	7	1.4%	8
Connecticut	0.1%	37	0.5%	46	-0.4%	49	-1.0%	50
Delaware	0.8%	31	3.2%	7	0.8%	41	0.9%	18
District of Columbia	1.4%	22	1.9%	16	1.4%	29	1.4%	8
Florida	2.9%	7	3.3%	4	1.8%	17	0.2%	43
Georgia	3.9%	3	3.0%	9	1.8%	17	0.6%	33
Hawaii	1.9%	15	1.5%	26	1.5%	26	0.7%	25
Idaho	2.1%	13	2.3%	11	1.6%	25	0.6%	33
Illinois	1.8%	17	1.6%	22	1.3%	33	0.4%	39
Indiana	1.5%	20	1.8%	19	2.3%	10	0.7%	25
Iowa	-1.4%	44	1.1%	32	1.7%	21	0.7%	25
Kansas	0.4%	33	1.1%	32	1.4%	29	0.7%	25
Kentucky	-0.1%	39	0.7%	44	1.5%	26	0.5%	37
Louisiana	-1.1%	43	0.5%	46	-0.2%	48	0.1%	45
Maine	1.5%	20	1.6%	22	0.5%	44	0.1%	45
Maryland	0.4%	33	1.1%	32	1.3%	33	1.1%	15
Massachusetts	1.1%	27	2.3%	11	1.9%	15	1.2%	13
Michigan	1.9%	15	1.9%	16	2.4%	7	0.4%	39
Minnesota	-1.6%	46	1.0%	38	1.7%	21	0.8%	21
Mississippi	2.4%	8	0.8%	41	0.4%	47	0.0%	47
Missouri	1.7%	19	1.3%	30	1.0%	37	0.6%	33
Montana	-0.2%	40	1.5%	26	1.8%	17	1.0%	17
Nebraska	1.3%	25	1.8%	19	2.4%	7	2.0%	3
Nevada	1.4%	22	1.9%	16	0.7%	43	-1.1%	51
New Hampshire	3.1%	5	2.0%	15	1.7%	21	0.8%	21
New Jersey	0.3%	35	1.2%	31	1.0%	37	0.2%	43
New Mexico	-1.5%	45	1.0%	38	0.5%	44	0.5%	37
New York	0.9%	28	1.1%	32	1.4%	29	1.4%	8
North Carolina	2.3%	10	2.1%	14	1.3%	33	0.8%	21
North Dakota	-8.4%	51	-1.6%	50	5.5%	1	5.5%	1
Ohio	0.9%	28	1.8%	19	2.1%	13	0.9%	18
Oklahoma	-2.7%	47	1.1%	32	2.6%	3	1.9%	5
Oregon	4.6%	1	3.5%	3	2.2%	11	1.9%	5
Pennsylvania	0.1%	37	1.4%	28	1.8%	17	1.1%	15
Rhode Island	0.3%	35	1.0%	38	0.8%	41	0.3%	41
South Carolina	3.0%	6	2.9%	10	2.0%	14	0.9%	18
South Dakota	-0.8%	42	0.7%	44	1.5%	26	2.0%	3
Tennessee	2.2%	11	2.3%	11	2.2%	11	1.2%	13
Texas	-0.2%	40	3.3%	4	3.8%	2	2.9%	2
Utah	3.4%	4	3.3%	4	2.6%	3	1.5%	7
Vermont	2.2%	11	0.8%	41	1.2%	36	0.7%	25
Virginia	0.8%	31	1.1%	32	1.0%	37	0.7%	25
Washington	4.3%	2	3.6%	1	2.5%	5	1.4%	8
West Virginia	-3.1%	48	0.0%	48	0.5%	44	0.7%	25
Wisconsin	1.2%	26	1.6%	22	1.7%	21	0.8%	21
Wyoming	-6.6%	50	-1.5%	49	-1.4%	51	-0.6%	49

Source: JEC Democratic staff calculations based on data from the Bureau of Economic Analysis

Notes: Includes data through Q2 2016; national GDP prerecession peak in Q4 2007 and low point in Q2 2009 do not necessarily correspond to the peaks and low points in each individual state; ranks are among the 50 states and the District of Columbia and are based on the average annual percentage change rounded to one decimal place; data are seasonally adjusted; due to methodological differences, total U.S. real GDP by state may differ slightly from national GDP figures

Real GDP by State: Percentage Change Over Past Year

Q2 2015 to Q2 2016 (Released December 7, 2016)



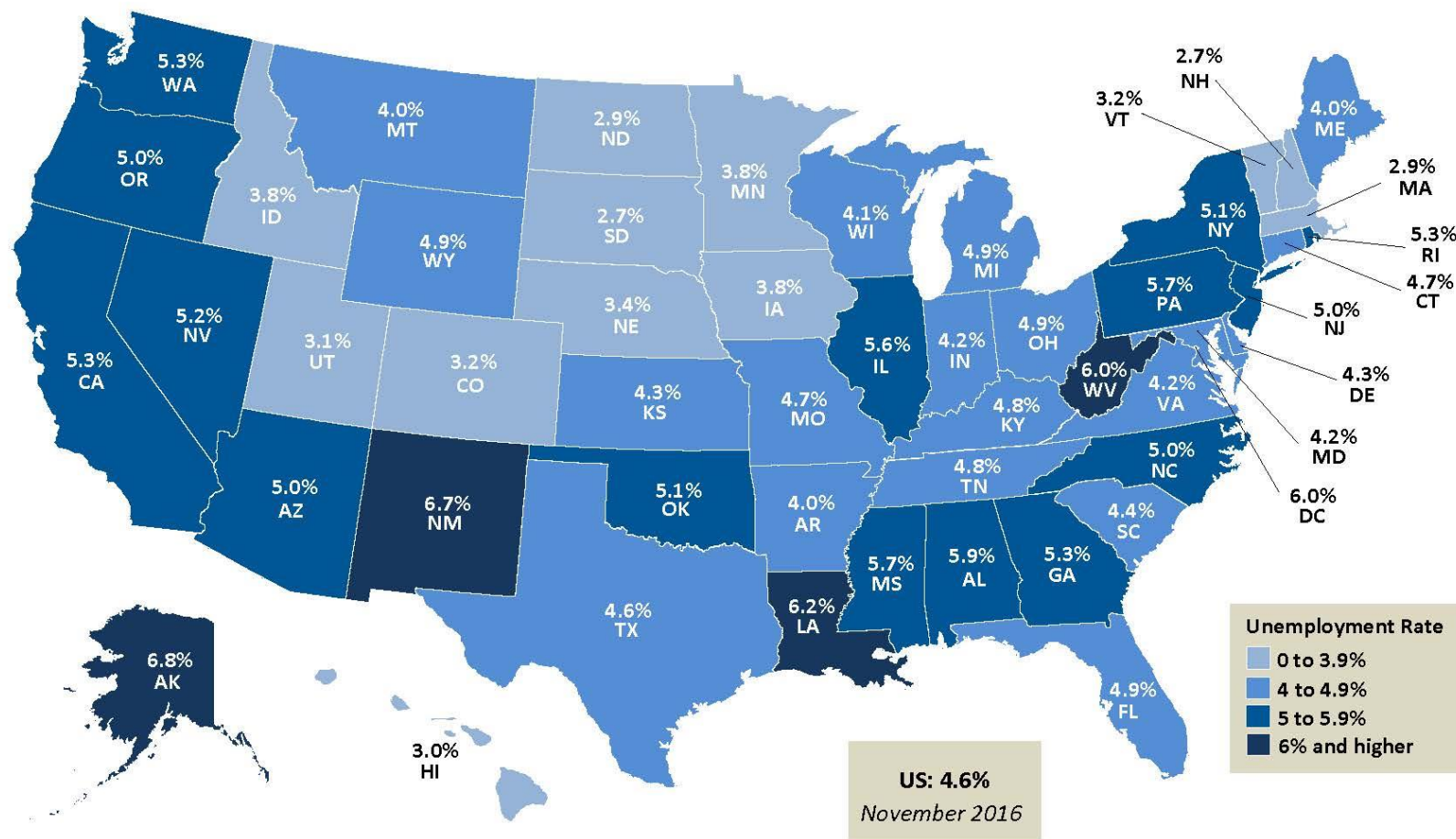
Source: JEC Democratic staff based on data from the Bureau of Economic Analysis (Q3 2016 data will be released Feb. 2, 2017)

Note: Because of methodological differences, total U.S. real GDP by state may differ slightly from headline national GDP figures



Current Unemployment Rates Across States

November 2016 (Released December 16th)



Source: JEC Democratic staff based on data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics (state data update next on January 24, 2017)

